(b) whether the public sector firms, as promised by the Prime Minister in the Global Investors Meet at Kochi, arrived at agreements with KSIDC for investment in Kerala; and

(c) how far the disinvestment policy of public sector companies adversely affected the Central Investment proposal in the public sector units of Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) The following CPSEs have signed MoUs with KSIDC for taking up their new projects in Kerala:

1.	Kochi Refineries Ltd.-Upgradation Project (7.5 MTPA to 10.5 MTPA)	Rs. 2600 crs
2.	NMDC-Mineral Processing Unit at Kollam	Rs. 1850 crs
3.	Cochin Shipyard Ltd.-Technology Park at Kochi	Rs. 65 crs.

(c) The declared disinvestment policy of the Government does not affect the investment proposals in CPSEs including those in Kerala.

Lock out in PSUs

564. SHRI MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people who have lost their job due to the lock out/ close down/disinvestments of various Public Sector Undertakings in the country during the last three years;

(b) the number of them who have been relocated during the last three years; and

(c) whether the workers have been paid their due wages and compensation alongwith details of the compensation and statutory dues paid to the sacked workers in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) The

information in regard to employees who lost their jobs due to lock out/ closure/disinvestments of various PSUs and have been relocated, or the amount of compensation/statutory dues paid to each such employee is not centrally maintained. However, compensations/statutory dues are paid to such employees under the provisions of various statutes.

Implementation of Cable Network Access Act

565. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that set top boxes will have to be introduced in cable homes to implement Cable Network Access Act;

(b) the estimated number of users of such boxes in the next three year-wise;

(c) the assessment of Government about the time-frame of the broadcasting sector becoming virtually digital;

(d) whether the analogue equipments both with operators and subscribers will become redundant after such an eventuality;

(e) whether it is a fact that analogue technology can not create tamper proof environment; and

(f) if so, how introduction of analogue set top boxes would eliminate disputes between channel providers and operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (f) In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 4(A) of Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995, the Central Government has, on 14th January, 2003, notified the 15th day of January, 2003, as the date of within six months from which, it shall be obligatory for every cable operator to transmit/re-transmit programmes of every pay channel on an addressable system in the four metro cities namely, Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata and Delhi. Thereafter, a set top box will be required to view the pay channels and not the free to air channels.

It is difficult to lay down a time-frame for complete digitalization of Broadcasting Sector, but as is expected elsewhere in the world there